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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Hiroyuki TAGUCHI

Application No.: 10/689,700

Filed: October 22, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: SHO-0016

Examiner: P. T. Nguyen

Art Unit: 2833

Confirmation No.: 4656

For: CONNECTOR AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING THEREOF

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**MS AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Restriction Requirement dated August 24, 2004, Applicant provisionally elects Group I, claims 1, 2 and 11 with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search or the subject matter of any one group of claims would necessarily encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP 803 which is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims that are distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added).

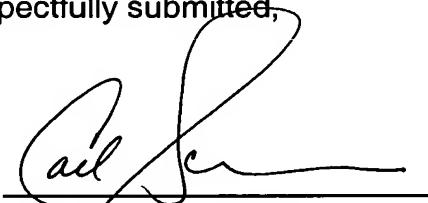
It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply to the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and the duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Furthermore, Applicant expressly reserves the right to rejoin the method claims upon allowance of the product claims, if appropriate, and expressly reserves the right to file any divisional applications.

Dated: September 21, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By:


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